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SOURCE      Newspapers as indicated.

OFF-SHORE PETROLEUM EXTRACTION PROGRESSES;  
SHALE WORKERS PLEDGE NEW GOALS

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Workers of the Azmorneft' Association completed their 9-month quota ahead of schedule and have already delivered tens of thousands of tons of petroleum on their Socialist obligations. Since the beginning of 1950, the average daily extraction of petroleum has risen 36 percent and the number of producing wells has increased 13 percent. These figures would be still higher if all the Azmorneft' oil fields, drilling offices, and subordinate enterprises were fulfilling their obligations. The Bukhta Il'icha Oil Field is thousands of tons of petroleum behind schedule and oil fields No 2 and No 3 are also failing to meet the state plan.

Maritime oil field No 4 of the Artemneft' Trust has already completed the Five-Year Plan and has also fulfilled its promise to deliver to the country many thousands of tons of petroleum above plan. Since the beginning of 1950, the number of producing wells in this oil field was increased by 29, 14 of which were restored from prolonged inactivity. Petroleum extraction has increased 34 percent over 1949 and production costs were lowered 4.3 percent during 8 months. Twenty-seven wells at oil field No 4 have been converted from the compressor method to the deep-well-pump method and as a result of 190,000 cubic meters of compressed air were made available for other purposes. The Azmorneft' Association as a whole has been devoting considerable attention to this type of conversion.

The geological research office of the Azmorneft' Association completed the state plan for drilling 106.5 percent. Labor productivity of the prospectors was 30.7 percent above the plan and costs of drilling a meter were reduced 7 percent.

The introduction of new techniques and Stakhanovite work methods have caused the Azmorneft' Association to exceed the plan for speed in exploita-tional drilling 17.3 percent and in exploratory drilling 26.8 percent. During 8 months, the plan for turbodrilling was fulfilled 148.8 percent.

- 1 -

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The Azneft' Association has assumed heavy obligations, but there are serious flaws in its performance. The Ordzhonikidzeneft', Molotovneft', and Azizbekovneft' trusts and a number of oil fields have not only not fulfilled their Socialist obligations, but they have not even completed the state plan. It is necessary to take decisive measures to improve the work of lagging sections and to assure the unconditional fulfillment of the state plan. (1)

However the Leninneft' Trust completed the 9-month plan ahead of schedule. Workers of the trust pledged to increase the active reserves of the trust by 150 oil wells. They recently completed the fulfillment of this promise. Oil fields No 2, No 5, 6, 13, and 14 completed the 9-month program ahead of schedule, but oil fields No 1, 3, 4, and 12 are still lagging in production. (2)

Ekhabl petroleum workers in Sakhalin pledged to extract hundreds of tons of above-plan petroleum and they are fulfilling their obligations. Our section in the oil fields is exceeding its quota for underground repair 50 percent. (3)

Some of the Bashkir oil fields are making inadequate preparations for the winter. The Tuymazaneft' Trust is slow in carrying out repair of oil-field equipment. Construction of winter auxiliary installations has not been begun and supplies of materials are not being brought in. (4)

At the Riga Petroleum Refinery, the 10-month plan has been exceeded and 450,000 rubles above plan have been saved by reducing production costs. Workers at the plant have had great success in saving materials, fuel, and electric power. As a result, they have been able to produce 55 extra tons of products. Recently the plant took up the reprocessing of used oils which will later be re-used in industry and agriculture. (3)

In the Estonian shale basin, a competition has been started by miners of the first section of Kyava-2 Mine and miners of the seventh Stakhanovite section of the Kukruse Mine in honor of the 33d anniversary of 7 November. Miners of these two mines have pledged to increase the shale output, give the country 20 percent of above-plan shale during September and October, raise labor productivity of the miners, and decrease the output of low-grade shale 30 percent.

Akhtme miners were included in the competition and promised to deliver thousands of tons of above-plan shale and lower the production costs of shale 2 percent below that provided for in the plan. Mine No 10 fulfilled the plan for shale output 113 percent from 10 - 15 September. (5)

In mines of the Estonslanets Combine, repair of underground railroads has been completed only 43 percent.

At the Kokhtla-Yarve shale refinery, construction of a mechanized storehouse for shale is proceeding badly. (6)

## SOURCES

1. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 24 Sep 50
2. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 27 Sep 50
3. Moscow, Trud, 23 Aug 50
4. Moscow, Pravda, 29 Aug 50
5. Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Sep 50
6. Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 10 Sep 50

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- 2 -

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